



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Sequoia & Kings Canyon
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Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks Fire Update

For Immediate Release – August 23, 2006
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Park Managers Monitor the Roaring Fire

The lightning-caused Roaring Fire, now 468 acres, continues to have positive effects on the forest south of Cedar Grove and north of Sentinel Dome in Kings Canyon National Park. Active on its western flank, the fire has burned approximately 40 acres a day over the last week.

Beginning tomorrow, Engine 41 will be assigned to patrol the Roaring Fire from Cedar Grove on the valley floor. In addition, fire monitors are still stationed on North Mountain directly across the Kings River from the Roaring Fire. From this vantage point, they can observe fire behavior and report to managers. As the fire moves down the slope toward Cedar Grove, crews will take holding actions to protect park infrastructure and cultural sites.

“With good planning, we can keep fire out of the valley while allowing it to spread and benefit other areas,” said David Allen, Fire Use Manager.

The parks are working with the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District to minimize smoke impacts from the Roaring Fire. Visitors should be aware that smoke will be present in the Cedar Grove developed area in the early mornings since smoke settles down to lower elevations at night. The smoke lifts out of the canyon by late morning or early afternoon. Visitors who are sensitive to smoke should consider choosing campgrounds outside of the Cedar Grove area. Many camping opportunities are available in the national parks and surrounding national forests.

Fire managers are also monitoring two other small fires. The Ridge Fire (less than one acre) is located at 8,500 feet in elevation approximately one mile southwest of the Roaring Fire. The 9-acre Burnt Fire was discovered on July 21 at 8,400 feet in elevation three miles northeast of Tehipite Dome and one mile south of Burnt Mountain in Kings Canyon National Park.

The parks are allowing all three fires to spread naturally using a strategy called “wildland fire use.” This strategy is utilized, when conditions allow, to maintain the natural role of fire.

www.nps.gov/seki/fire/fireinfo/current.htm